

REMARKS

1. In response to the Office Action mailed October 1, 2007, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration. Claims 1-14 and 24-26 were originally presented for examination. In the outstanding Office Action, claims 1-14 and 24-26 were rejected. By the foregoing Amendments, claims 1, 6, 24 and 26 have been amended. Claim 29 has been added and no claims have been cancelled. No new matter has been added. Upon entry of this paper, claims 1-14, 24-26, and 29 will be pending in this application. Of these eighteen (18) claims, 3 claims (claims 1, 24 and 26) are independent.
2. Based upon the above Amendment and following Remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that all outstanding objections and rejections be reconsidered, and that they be withdrawn.

Art of Record

3. Applicant acknowledges receipt of form PTO-892 listing additional references identified by the Examiner.

Claim Rejections under §102(b) – Bullara

4. Claims 1-2, 6-11 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,573,481 to Bullara (“Bullara”). Applicant respectfully disagrees, and asserts that Bullara fails to teach, disclose or suggest all elements of Applicant’s invention as recited in independent claim 1.
5. Independent claim 1, as amended above, recites, in part, “an electrically conductive element... comprising a ***plurality of layers each comprising a plurality of electrical conductors*** positioned within said conductive element such that each of said conductors at the first end are correspondingly identifiable at said second end.” (See, Applicant’s claim 1, as amended, above; emphasis added.)
6. The Office Action states that “Bullara discloses a lead body of insulating material (18), a plurality of conducting elements extending through the insulating material”. (See, Office

Action, pg. 2, ¶ 3.) In fact, nowhere in Bullara is a “plurality of layers each comprising a plurality of electrical conductors” taught or suggested. Since Bullara does not teach or suggest a “plurality of layers each comprising a plurality of electrical conductors”, Applicant asserts that Bullara does not teach or suggest Applicant’s invention as recited in claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claim Rejections under §102(b) – Diaz

7. Claims 1-8, 10-11, 13-14 and 24-26 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,824,026 to Diaz (“Diaz”). Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 24 and 26, rendering this rejection moot.

8. Specifically, amended claims 1, 24 and 26 recite, in part, “comprising a ***plurality of layers each comprising a plurality of electrical conductors*** positioned within said conductive element such that ***each of said conductors at the first end are correspondingly identifiable at said second end.***” (See, Applicant’s amended claim 1; emphasis added.)

9. As admitted in the Office Action, in Diaz, each of the conductors may be “stranded” in a direction opposite to the next layer of conductors. However, Diaz does not teach or suggest a conductive element “comprising a plurality of layers each comprising a plurality of electrical conductors positioned within said conductive element such that each of said conductors at the first end are correspondingly identifiable at said second end” as recited in Applicant’s independent claims 1, 24 and 26. For at least this reason, Applicant asserts that Diaz does not teach or suggest the claimed invention, as presently amended, and accordingly respectfully requests that this rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claim Rejections under §102(b) – Wessman

10. Claims 1-4, 10-12, 14 and 26 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,149,585 to Wessman *et al.* (“Wessman”). Independent claims 1 and 26 have been amended, rendering the rejection moot.

11. Specifically, amended independent claims 1 and 26, recite, in part, “***an electrically conductive element, wound around a length*** of said elongate body, having first and second ends, and comprising a ***plurality of layers each comprising a plurality of electrical conductors*** positioned within said conductive element such that ***each of said conductors at the first end are correspondingly identifiable at said second end.***” (See, Applicant’s claims 1 and 26, as amended; emphasis added.)

12. Wessman discloses a lead body having inner and outer insulators and one or more conductors, where the inner and outer insulators are fused together to “electrically isolate the conductors from one another”, between the fused insulators. (See, Wessman, col. 2, ll. 29-32.) As shown in FIGS. 2 through 4 of Wessman, conductors 26 and 36 are wound around an inner insulator 14, but are not configured such that “each of said conductors at the first end are correspondingly identifiable at said second end” as recited in Applicant’s independent claim 1 and 26. Therefore, Wessman does not teach or suggest an “an electrically conductive element, wound around a length of said elongate body, having first and second ends, and comprising a plurality of layers each comprising a plurality of electrical conductors positioned within said conductive element such that each of said conductors at the first end are correspondingly identifiable at said second end”. Therefore, Wessman does not anticipate the Applicant’s independent claims 1 and 26, and Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Dependent Claims

13. The dependent claims incorporate all the subject matter of their respective independent claims and add additional subject matter which makes them independently patentable over the art of record. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully asserts that the dependent claims are also allowable over the art of record.

Conclusion

14. In view of the foregoing, this application should be in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested.

15. Applicant reserves the right to pursue any cancelled claims or other subject matter disclosed in this application in a continuation or divisional application, cancellations and amendments of above claims, therefore, are not to be construed as an admission regarding the patentability of any claims and Applicant reserves the right to pursue such claims in a continuation or divisional application.

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Respectfully submitted,

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